Trauma Designation

All licensed hospitals are required by the *Code of Virginia* to submit data on their trauma cases to the Virginia Statewide Trauma Registry. Of those 94 licensed hospitals, 14 have been designated as a trauma center. A trauma center's designation is defined by the following criteria:

Level I

Level I trauma centers have an organized trauma response and are required to provide total care for every aspect of injury, from prevention through rehabilitation. These facilities must have adequate depth of resources and personnel with the capability of providing leadership, education, research, and system planning.

Level II

Level II trauma centers have an organized trauma response and are also expected to provide initial definitive care, regardless of the severity of injury. The specialty requirements may be fulfilled by on call staff, that are promptly available to the patient. Due to limited resources, Level II centers may have to transfer more complex injuries to a Level I center. Level II centers should also take on responsibility for education and system leadership within their region.

Level III

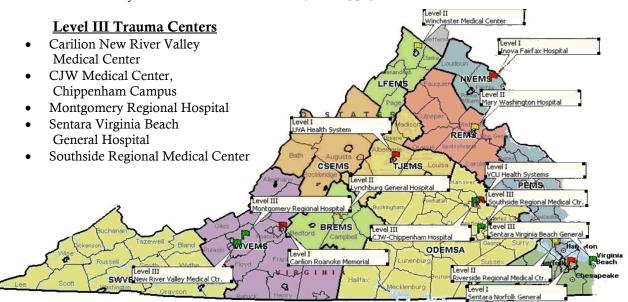
Level III trauma centers, through an organized trauma response, can provide prompt assessment, resuscitation, stabilization, emergency operations and also arrange for the transfer of the patient to a facility that can provide definitive trauma care. Level III centers should also take on responsibility for education and system leadership within their region.

Level I Trauma Centers

- Carillion Roanoke
 Memorial Hospital
- Inova Fairfax Hospital
- Sentara Norfolk General Hospital
- UVA Health System
- VCU Health Systems

Level II Trauma Centers

- Lynchburg General Hospital
- Riverside Regional Medical Center
- Winchester Medical Center
- Mary Washington Hospital (Designated in 9/2008. Not included as a designated Trauma Center in data analyses on the following pages).



Trauma Designation

Required Surgical Clinical Capabilities: (On call and promptly available)				
Surgical Clinical Capabilities	Level of Designation			
	Ι	II	Ш	
Cardiac Surgery	X			
Thoracic Surgery	X	X		
Orthopedic Surgery	X	X	X	
Pediatric Surgery	X			
Hand Surgery	X			
Microvascular/Replant Surgery	X			
Plastic Surgery	X	X		
Maxillofacial Surgery	X	X		
Ear, Nose & Throat Surgery	X	X		
Oral Surgery	X			
Ophthalmic Surgery	X	X		
Gynecological Surgery/ Obstetrical Surgery	X	X		

All levels of trauma center designation are required to have an organized approach to trauma care; this includes an appropriately staffed "trauma team" that respond to pre-established criteria (trauma alert). All levels are also required to have a trauma (general) surgeon as the team leader of a trauma team alert, have an anesthesiologist and operating room immediately available, and for Level I and II centers a neurosurgeon promptly available as well.

In addition to these requirements the tables demonstrate the minimum surgical and medical physician capabilities each level of trauma center are required to have promptly available to trauma patients.

Each trauma center undergoes close scrutiny by a site review team every three years; sooner for newer centers. The team consist of a Surgeon/Team Leader, Emergency Physician, Critical Care Nurse, Hospital Administrator, and the OEMS Trauma Coordinator.

The team evaluates such aspects as the trauma response throughout the hospital, patient care provided, compliance with educational criteria, and performance improvement. Designated Trauma Centers are also required to have an outreach program in place to communicate with hospital and EMS agencies located within its catchment area. This serves to complete the informational feedback loop.

Required Medical Clinical Capabilities: (On call and promptly available)				
Medical Clinical	Level of Designation			
Capabilities	I	II	III	
Cardiology	X	X		
Pulmonology	X			
Gastroenterology	X			
Hematology	X			
Infectious Disease	X			
Internal Medicine	X	X	X	
Nephrology	X			
Pathology	X	X	X	
Pediatrics	X			
Radiology	X	X	X	
Interventional Radiology.	X			